Meeting Box Hill Institute’s need for evidence-based content with Elsevier’s nursing solutions

With the increasing importance of delivering high quality care through a reduction of variability, the need for standardised training based on current, evidence-based information has never been greater. For nursing education, factors such as variations in teaching style, student accessibility to trusted content, changing educational standards and the ability to reinforce practical hands-on skills create challenges for the long-term goal of improved consistency in the delivery of quality care.
BACKGROUND

This case study looks at the original challenges faced by Box Hill Institute (BHI) in its provision of clinical skills training, the chosen solutions, and their deployment.

Established in 1995, with campuses in Melbourne CBD, Lilydale and Box Hill, BHI offers a diverse range of qualifications including the Diploma of Nursing, which is run by the nursing faculty. This qualification helps future enrolled nurses who are aspiring to provide high-quality standards and evidence-based practices, attain industry-ready employability and incorporate the skills required to:

- Assess clients’ health and analyse health related information
- Communicate effectively in an interprofessional environment
- Care for elderly patients, acute care clients and people with mental health conditions
- Understand the legal and ethical parameters of their nursing practice
- Provide basic nursing care
- Administer and monitor medications

To enhance the Diploma of Nursing programme, BHI has chosen to invest in Elsevier’s Clinical Skills, an interactive evidence-based online training solution, and ClinicalKey for Nursing, an advanced search engine that makes it easier to find and apply relevant knowledge. These digital solutions give students access to the latest evidence-based content mapped to the current Australian Standards for Nursing Practice.
THE CHALLENGE

BHI’s first step was to survey staff to identify the challenges they faced.

Change in National Diploma of Nursing training

The new national Diploma of Nursing Training Package (HLT54115)* presents a range of new requirements that institutes such as BHI must meet to achieve the national accreditation standards for the curriculum. The training requirements are heavily focused on essential clinical skills and knowledge, including a requirement for enrolled nurses to understand and learn nursing informatics – the integration of nursing science with information management and analytical sciences to communicate information and knowledge in nursing practice.

* Diploma of Nursing Training Package (HLT54115) was released December 8, 2015.

Lack of consistency

While the faculty’s diverse nursing experience is a strength for BHI, it also presents challenges in maintaining the consistency of training delivery across the many campuses.

Out of date reference materials

This increased focus on the academic side of nursing created more demand for reference material. However, print copies of textbooks were costly for both the Institute and students, who would offset this expense by relying on out-of-date material, Google or uncreditable sources. As a result, students’ pre-class preparation was at risk of being inadequate.

Variation in experience, educational messages and duplication of effort

Variations in teaching – based on teachers’ individualised nursing industry experience – was exacerbated by the changes, and when surveyed, students and faculty expressed confusion about clinical skills demonstrated differently by different educators. In addition to the problems of inconsistency, multiple educators were individually preparing materials to teach the same lessons.
THE SOLUTION

After assessing several vendors, BHI selected Elsevier’s Clinical Skills and ClinicalKey for Nursing as the core of its course redesign. With Clinical Skills embedded in ClinicalKey for Nursing, these solutions assisted BHI by providing one access point for Australian-based learning resources.

The solutions were implemented and supported by several training sessions for educators ahead of implementation, to ensure readiness. Students continue to be trained during orientation week and continuing education is provided through lunchtime tutorials and support across all sites by Elsevier.

**Standardised theory and skills across all campuses**

Clinical Skills and ClinicalKey for Nursing deliver evidence-based resources to support in-class lessons and self-directed learning.

Clinical Skills provides skills theory and video demonstrations and ClinicalKey for Nursing provides nursing faculty and students access to the most current nursing research and knowledge across BHI’s several campuses.

**Online materials provide multiple access points and are always up-to-date**

The online nature of Elsevier’s Clinical Skills and ClinicalKey for Nursing allow staff and students on any campus to access the same learning materials, as well as use their own devices to access the same material at home.

Students are now able to use state-of-the-art learning materials – always at the latest revision– wherever they are and at times that are convenient to them. After-hours access is particularly useful for students trying to fit 400 hours of shift-based practical work into their course load.

“As well as explanations, visual demonstrations are given to display the skill or task in a real-life scenario. Makes it easier to apply knowledge on placements.”

*BHI Nursing Student*

“Best practice is on hand at all times. Students have access that enables them to research and produce better quality work.”

*BHI Nursing Educator*
Elimination of duplication

Thanks to the centralised storage of content, training packages can now be managed by one educator for all students, ensuring consistent content delivery, eliminating duplication and variability.

The time saved by educators in creating and updating this content can be invested into more productive work.

“Elsevier Clinical Skills is useful not only for myself but for the students. I have used it for simulation, charts and my teaching.”

BHI Nursing Educator

THE NEXT STEPS

The next steps for BHI is to embed Clinical Skills and ClinicalKey within individual unit plans and individual learning units, to optimise the utilisation of the existing resources.
Clinical Skills
Aligned with Australian and New Zealand standards
Clinical Skills combines competency management features with over 1,500 evidence-based skills and procedures, including 130+ skills localised to Australian and New Zealand standards, to create an engaging learning experience that helps update or refresh your knowledge and learn entirely new skills.

Core skills have been developed to align with Australian NSQHS Standards and are linked to Australian RN and EN, plus New Zealand RN competencies and standards.

ClinicalKey® for Nursing
Trusted content you need, anytime, anywhere
ClinicalKey for Nursing is an advanced search engine that delivers equal-access to the very best of Elsevier’s local and international content in Nursing. All content is continuously updated and so users always have the latest evidence-based material made available to them to empower academic excellence and support transition to practice.

When you need greater depth, ClinicalKey for Nursing can help you discover content from an extensive range of books, journals, guidelines, multimedia and more.

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